



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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David M. Golden, Director

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

CATHERINE R. MCCABE
Commissioner

February 12, 2020

Dear Atlantic Menhaden Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, Bait Net License Holder:
New Jersey Menhaden Dealer:

As of February 12, 2020, the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has determined that the 2020 Atlantic Menhaden quota allocated to the commercial Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fisheries will be harvested by Saturday, February 15, 2020. Based upon this information and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 23:3-51.11(d)1 (L. 2013, c.74, s.13) the **New Jersey directed harvest of menhaden in the commercial Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net fisheries will be closed** as of 11:59 PM, Friday, February 14, 2020.

Therefore, effective 12:00 AM, Saturday, February 15, 2020, no vessel shall land or possess, nor shall any dealer accept any Atlantic menhaden harvested by Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, or Bait Net in excess of the by-catch trip limit of 6,000 pounds through December 31, 2020. The commercial Atlantic Menhaden Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, and Bait Net directed fisheries will re-open on January 1, 2021.

If the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife determines the directed commercial quota for harvesting Atlantic menhaden using Pound Net, Otter Trawl, Gill Net, or Bait Net was closed prematurely, notification re-opening those gear types will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Marine Fisheries at 609-748-2020.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Cimino
Marine Fisheries Administrator

JB/CP